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United States Patent [19]

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Jones

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[54] **TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEM AND KIT**

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[*] Notice: This patent issued on a continued prosecution application filed under 37 CFR 1.53(d), and is subject to the twenty year patent term provisions of 35 U.S.C. 154(a)(2).

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[21] Appl. No.: **08/804,415**

[57] **ABSTRACT**

[22] Filed: **Feb. 20, 1997**

Related U.S. Application Data

[63] Continuation of application No. 08/655,556, May 30, 1996, abandoned, which is a continuation of application No. 08/438,536, May 10, 1995, abandoned, which is a continuation of application No. 08/275,228, Jul. 14, 1994, abandoned, which is a continuation of application No. 08/143,376, Oct. 26, 1993, abandoned, which is a continuation of application No. 07/774,710, Oct. 9, 1991, abandoned.

In order to minimize the risk to fire department and rescue vehicles as they enter into traffic, a traffic control system is provided. It includes a traffic signal assembly having a center light housing and a pair of outer light housings disposed on opposite sides thereof. The traffic control system includes a traffic sign assembly having warning information for vehicular and/or pedestrian traffic on one side thereof for mounting below the center housing of the traffic signal assembly. The traffic control system includes a solar panel to be mounted for maximizing solar energy collection in order to collect solar energy for delivery to and storage in a battery for illuminating bulbs in the housings. A sign light visually enhances the warning information on the sign. The traffic control system includes a programmable central control panel operatively associated with the battery for controlling the traffic signal assembly and delivering power from the battery to the traffic signal assembly responsive to a signal from a remote location. A modular arrangement of components is provided for rapidly connecting and disconnecting the traffic signal assembly, battery, solar panel, sign light and programmable central control panel. With this arrangement, the traffic control system can be provided in kit form to include at least three yellow lenses and at least two red lenses for the traffic signal assembly and a pair of signs for the traffic sign assembly including an international fire truck crossing sign and a stop here on red sign.

[51] **Int. Cl.**⁷ **G08G 1/095**; B60Q 7/00

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **340/915**; 340/908; 340/908.1; 340/944; 340/471; 340/473; 116/63 R; 40/612; 362/183

[58] **Field of Search** 340/915, 908, 340/908.1, 944, 953, 471, 472, 473; 362/183; 116/63 R, 63 P; 40/584, 612

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21 Claims, 13 Drawing Sheets

